From: Peter Dodge
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 8:57pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs.

I note with dismay the terms of the DoJ's settlement of the anti-trust suit against Microsoft. If Microsoft's past behavior -- flaunting the terms of the consent decree originally imposed out of the earlier antitrust case -- is any example, this settlement is comparable to the receipt of a slap on the wrist for the crime of assault. For there can be no doubt that Microsoft has mugged Netscape, and in turn the public, and will be free to continue its exploits.

Microsoft is a recidivist organization. Its management does not intend to loosen its stranglehold on the operating system market which gives it the leverage to ensure that competitive products do not see the light of day. At some point, Microsoft must be held accountable. its management must learn that the penalty for flaunting the law is certain to result in a terrible price which even its own swollen coffers cannot bank.

The public commonweal is ill used by the capitulating terms of this wholey inadequate settlement.

Sincerely,

Peter Dodge Cyberspace specialist 1511 Sharon Dr. Silver Spring, MD 20910